GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7879
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
UNORGANISED LABOUR
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Government propose to streamline its concerned offices which deal with unorganised labour and their problems;

(b) whether any effort has been made to carefully give priority to some problems concerning bidi workers;

(c) if so, the details of priorities given;

(d) whether bidi unions are exercised over the possibility of strict anti-bidi restrictions being proposed by the Health Ministry;

(e) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to react to such steps; and

(f) if so, details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a): The subject matter of unorganised labour is handled by a separate division in the Ministry of Labour. In order to address the specific problems, Welfare Funds have been created for workers engaged in beedi making, cine industry; Limestone & Dolomite Mines; Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines & Chrome Ore Mines and Mica Mines sectors. For proper and smooth administration of the welfare Funds, the country has been divided into 9 welfare Regions. The functioning of the Labour Welfare Funds is reviewed periodically and suitable instructions are given wherever necessary.

(b) & (c): The beedi workers and their dependants are being provided benefits in the fields of Health, Housing, Social Security, Education and Recreation under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, at present.

(d) to (f): The organisations representing beedi sector have raised, from time to time, the issues relating to the possible adverse impact of certain proposals being considered by the Government. These have been brought to the notice of the concerned Ministries for taking into consideration before initiating any action on such proposals.